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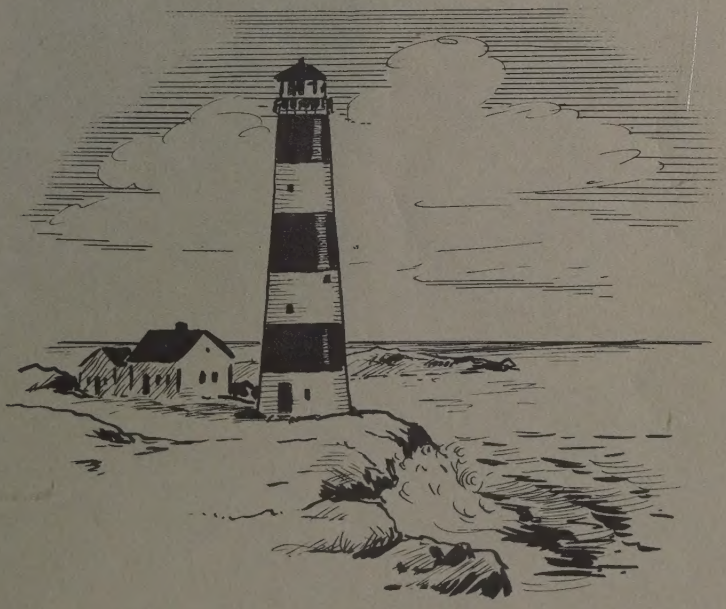
COMMERCIAL FISHERIES OUTLOOK



January - March 1961

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Department of the Interior

Washington, D.C.

Fishery Leaflet 336 uu

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Department of the Interior

Fishery Leaflet 336 uu

Washington 25, D. C. January 1961

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Prepared in the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES OUTLOOK

January - March 1961

THE OUTLOOK AT A GLANCE

BUSINESS ACTIVITY..... Continued slight increase in unemployment while the economy makes certain adjustments preparatory to expanding.

FOOD..... Supplies generally a little larger with strong demand and prices averaging close to last year.

FISHERY PRODUCTION..... Seasonally low in first quarter.

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS..... Generally lower than a year earlier.

IMPORTS..... Continued high for frozen shrimp and canned sardines.

EXPORTS..... Not much change from last year for most species.

DEMAND..... Good for most species with increased activity during Lent.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Industrial production and total employment declined in November while personal income and retail sales were maintained and the value of new construction activity edged up. Commercial bank credit changed little and the seasonally adjusted money supply declined.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION - Industrial production in November was 105 percent of the 1957 average, compared with 107 in October and an average of 110 for the first seven months of the year. Output of consumer goods and materials declined in November while production of business equipment remained at the advanced level prevailing since mid-1959.

Auto assemblies were curtailed in November and December schedules indicate some further decline in production. Iron and steel production declined in November to 71 percent of the 1957 average and there were further decreases in output of other metal and construction materials. Production of textiles and some other nondurable materials also continued to decline. In early December, steel mill operations were reduced about seasonally.

CONSTRUCTION - The value of new construction activity, which had declined in October, edged up in November to about the July-September level. Private construction outlays remained at the reduced October rate, but public expenditures, mainly for highways, increased.

EMPLOYMENT - Seasonally adjusted employment in nonfarm establishments declined further in November. Employment was reduced in most durable goods and some nondurable goods manufacturing industries. Unemployment increased 450,000 in November to 4.0 million. The rise was of about seasonal proportions, however, and the seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment, at 6.2 percent of the civilian labor force, changed little from October.

DISTRIBUTION - Sales at retail stores in November remained at the advanced October rate and were 4 percent above a year earlier. Sales at nondurable goods outlets rose slightly further, despite a 4 percent decrease at department stores, while dollar volume at durable goods stores declined somewhat. Seasonally adjusted unit sales of autos, including a number of 1960-model cars at reduced prices, equaled the high rate in October. New car stocks rose further and were high for this time of year.

COMMODITY PRICES - The wholesale commodity price index continued to show little change in November and early December. Prices of farm products and foods have not shown the usual seasonal decline this autumn and currently are 5 percent higher than a year ago, mainly because of reduced supplies of hogs, eggs, and some fruits and vegetables.

THE FOOD SITUATION

THE FOOD OUTLOOK

Food supplies through 1961 will probably be a little larger than in 1960, with consumer demand strong and over-all food consumption per capita about the same as the preceding year. Retail food prices in 1961 are expected to average close to those of 1960.

Food production in 1960 was record or near-record large. With normal weather this year, large crops of many foods can be expected. Increased production is expected for beef, milk, and poultry meat. Hog production will probably expand and pork supplies could start showing increases over a year earlier sometime after mid-1961.

MEATS

Currently prospects for 1961 indicate that meat production will increase enough to permit civilians to consume 4 pounds more meat per person, on the average, than in 1960. The increase will be in beef, and to a much less extent in veal. Beef consumption in 1961 is forecast at 89-90 pounds per person. Pork production in January-June 1961 will fall somewhat short of the year earlier total, but will climb later in 1961.

POULTRY AND EGGS

For the year ahead, poultry meat supplies are likely to continue even more abundant than in 1960, but eggs will be fewer through at least the first half of the year. Per capita consumption of eggs could dip further from the low of 325 eggs consumed in 1960, the lowest average in 18 years.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Supplies of milk and milk products available for consumption in 1961 are expected to be higher than in 1960. Milk production declined in both 1958 and 1959 as farmers in many areas switched from dairying to more profitable activities. Prospects are that the increase in milk production in 1961 will be slightly larger than 125.5 billion pounds in 1960.

FATS AND OILS

Current indications are that total supplies of edible fats and oils, including oilseeds, during the present marketing year will be down slightly from the record quantity available last year. Production of vegetable oils, however, will be up a little from the 1959-1960 output. Lard production will be sharply below a year earlier, reflecting a decline in the number of hogs to be slaughtered. Supplies of butter will be up slightly since carryover stocks were 46 percent larger at the beginning of this marketing year than on the same date last year.

GENERAL FISHERY SITUATION

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS of edible fishery products on December 1, 1960 totaled 231.5 million pounds, about 3 million pounds below those of a year earlier, but almost 23 million pounds higher than those on December 1, 1958. Holdings of flounder, fish sticks and portions, sablefish, salmon, whiting, and most of the shellfish species were higher on December 1, 1960 compared with December 1, 1959. Other major species were in lower supply.

IMPORTS of canned sardines, fresh or frozen lobster, frozen shrimp, canned oysters and fresh or frozen sea scallops were larger in the first ten months of 1960 than during the same period of 1959. Imports of canned tuna, fresh or frozen tuna, groundfish fillets and blocks, salmon, canned crab meat, swordfish, fish meal, and fish solubles were lower.

EXPORTS of canned mackerel, fresh or frozen salmon, frozen and canned shrimp were higher in January-October 1960 than in the corresponding period in 1959. Canned salmon, canned sardines, fish oils, and canned squid were exported in lesser quantities.

LANDINGS of commercial fishery products during the first nine months of 1960 were 3.6 billion pounds compared with 3.7 billion pounds for the same period in 1959. The catch of fish used for industrial purposes exceeded that taken for human food for the second consecutive year.

FISH MEAL AND SCRAP PRODUCTION during the first ten months of 1960 amounted to 242,500 tons, about 12,500 tons below the same period of 1959. The marine animal oil yield totaled 24.4 million gallons, a gain of 11 percent compared with the January-October 1959 period. The FAO has scheduled an international meeting of fish meal producing and consuming countries (see page 41).

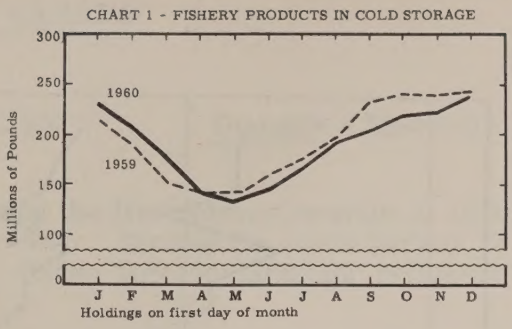
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX for edible fishery products in November, 1960 was up 8.9 percent from the same month in 1959, and all items in the index were priced higher except frozen halibut, fresh haddock fillets, and canned Maine sardines.

Fishery Products in Cold-Storage

December 1

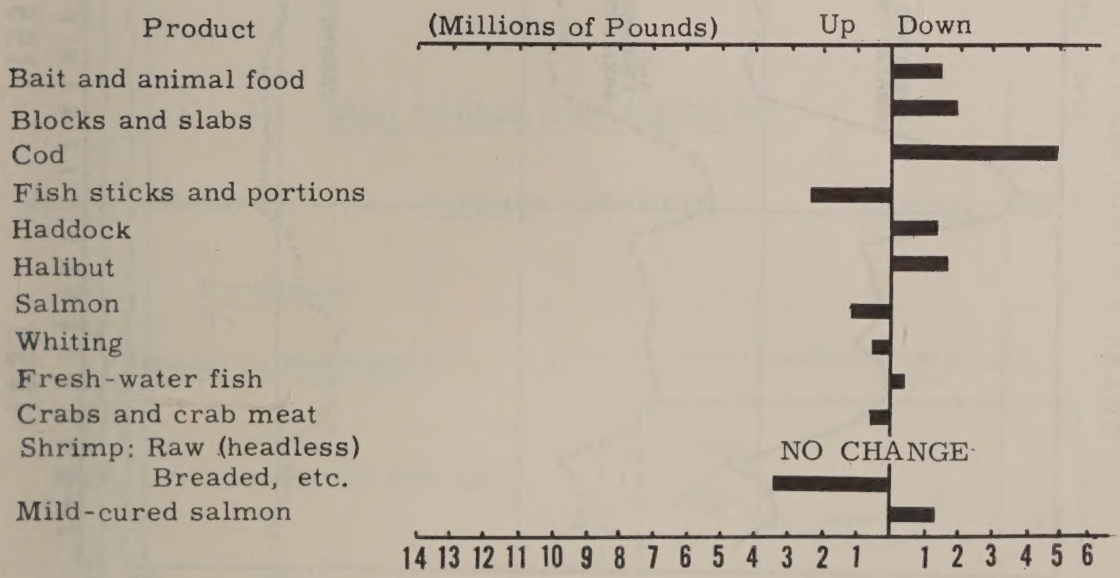
1960.....237,971,000 Lbs.

1959.....242,728,000 Lbs.



Cold-storage holdings of fish and shellfish on December 1, 1960, including a small amount of bait and animal food, were about 2 percent lower than those a year earlier (Chart 1), but 9 percent higher than the holdings on December 1, 1958. The following chart indicates inventory changes for certain species.

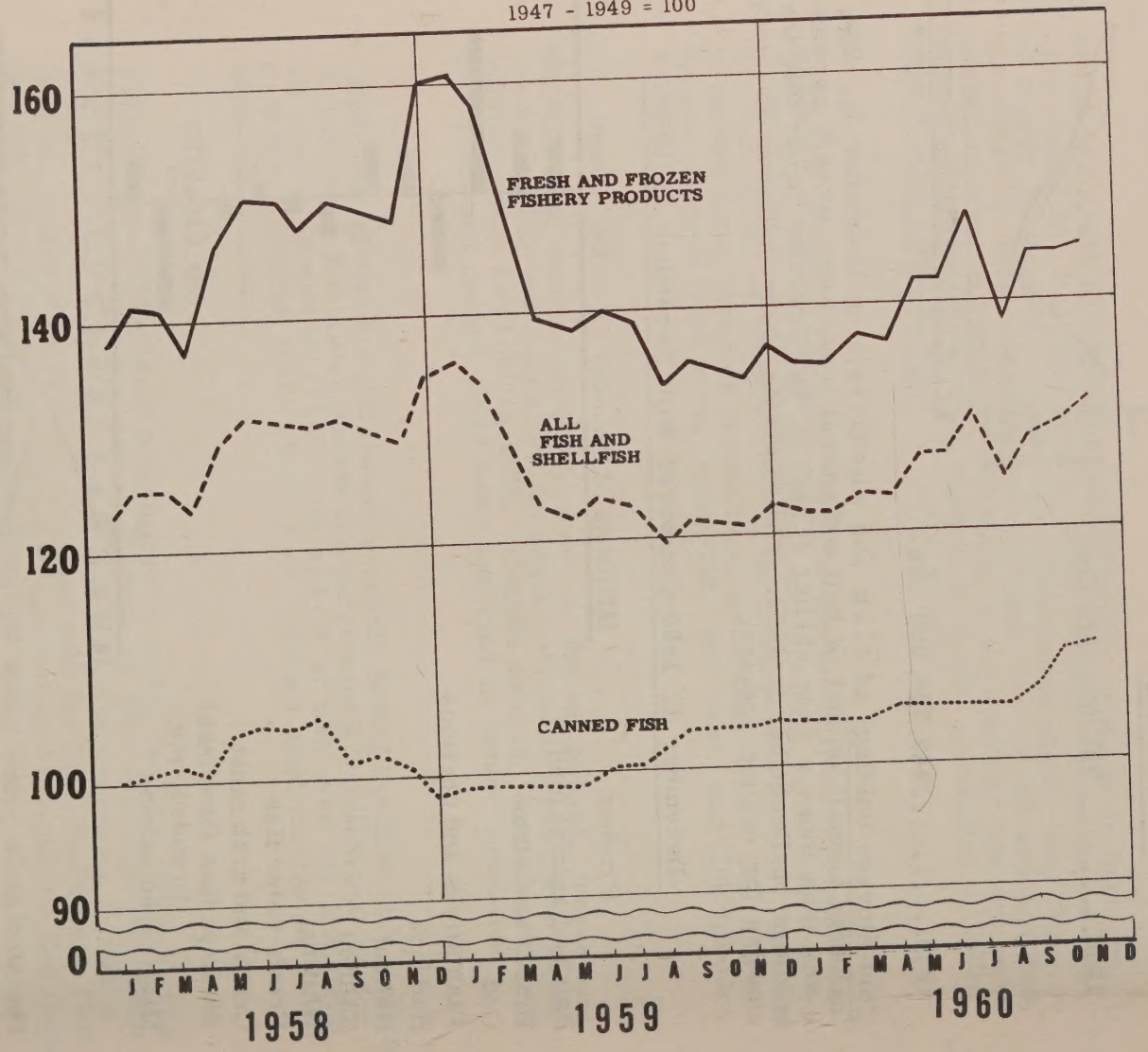
December 1, 1960 Compared With December 1, 1959



The wholesale price index for all fish and shellfish during November, 1960 was 131.5, an increase of 8.9 percent compared with the same month of 1959. Fresh and frozen fishery products had an index increase of 10.1 percent, while the index for canned fish was up 6.5 percent (Chart 2).

CHART 2 - INDEXES OF WHOLESALE FISH PRICES

1947 - 1949 = 100


160
140
120
100
90
0
FRESH AND FROZEN FISHERY PRODUCTS
ALL FISH AND SHELLFISH
CANNED FISH
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1958
1959
1960

SPECIFIC MARKETING SITUATIONS

Salt-water Fish

ANCHOVIES, CANNED

Market - Firm Supplies - Light Demand - Moderate

Landings of anchovies in California during the first eleven months of 1960 continued to be very light, about 1,493 tons. During the same period in 1959, only 1,329 tons were landed. These limited landings reflected limited marketing opportunities.

Pack - The estimated 1960 pack of canned anchovies at 8,000 standard cases is very light, but still almost 4,000 cases larger than last year.

Prices are firm and should remain steady during the first quarter of 1961.

FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

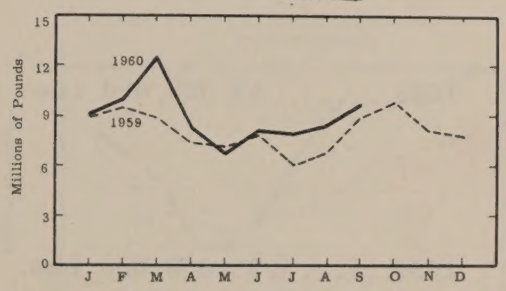
Production

January - September

1960.....80,973,000 Lbs.

1959.....70,966,000 Lbs.

CHART 3 - PRODUCTION OF FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS



Production of fish sticks and portions during the first nine months of 1960 was 14 percent higher compared with the corresponding period of the previous year (Chart 3). Fish stick production amounted to 46.7 million pounds, an increase of 4 percent. Fish portions increased 31 percent with a production of 34.2 million pounds.

FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS (Cont.)

Cold-Storage Holdings

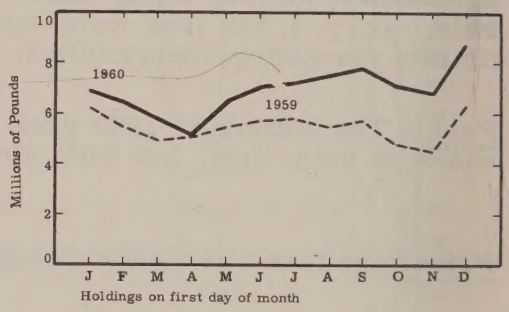
Fish Sticks and Portions

December 1

1960.....8,664,000 Lbs.

1959.....6,284,000 Lbs.

CHART 4 - FISH STICKS AND PORTIONS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-Storage Holdings

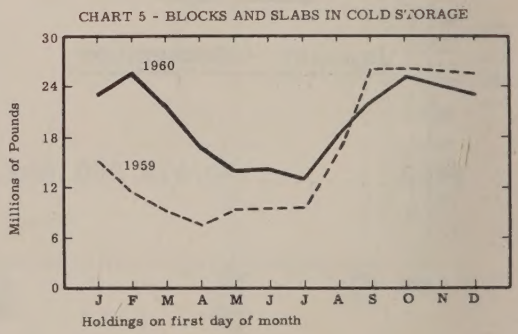
Blocks and Slabs

December 1

1960.....23,320,000 Lbs.

1959.....25,238,000 Lbs.

CHART 5 - BLOCKS AND SLABS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of fish sticks and portions on December 1 were 38 percent higher than those on the same date last year (Chart 4), while the holdings of blocks and slabs were about 8 percent lower (Chart 5).

Prices of fish sticks and portions are expected to remain steady during the first quarter.

FLOUNDER AND SOLE

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Massachusetts Landings

January - October

1960.....42,893,000 Lbs.

1959.....39,370,000 Lbs.

Landings of flounder and sole in Massachusetts during the first ten months of 1960 were 9 percent higher than those in the corresponding period a year earlier. The first quarter is usually a period of low production for this species. Historically, Massachusetts provides about 35 - 40 percent of total flounder landings.

Cold-Storage Holdings

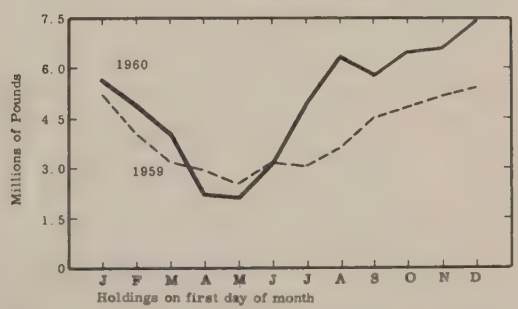
December 1

(Fillets)

1960.....7,468,000 Lbs.

1959.....5,347,000 Lbs.

CHART 6 - FLOUNDER AND SOLE FILLETS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of flounder and sole fillets on December 1 were 40 percent higher than those on the same date in 1959 (Chart 6). Stocks are expected to decline during the first quarter.

FLOUNDER AND SOLE (Cont.)

Imports

January - October

(Fillets)

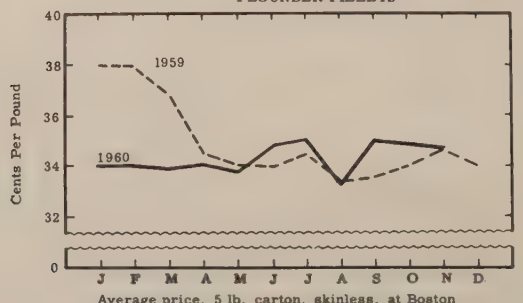
1960.....15,379,000 Lbs.

1959.....12,014,000 Lbs.

Imports of flounder and sole fillets through October were about 28 percent higher than those during the first ten months in 1959. Canada continues to be the principal supplier.

Wholesale prices of yellowtail flounder fillets are expected to remain steady during the first quarter after having dropped to a low level in August (Chart 7), because of landings of smaller size fish which had less market demand.

CHART 7 - WHOLESALE PRICES OF YELLOWTAIL FLOUNDER FILLETS



Average price, 5 lb. carton, skinless, at Boston

GROUNDFISH FILLETS, INCLUDING OCEAN PERCH

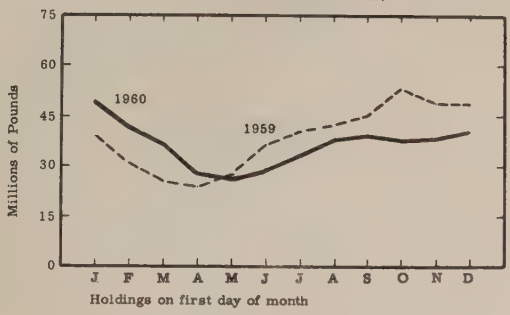
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960.....40,419,000 Lbs.

1959.....48,792,000 Lbs.

CHART 8 - GROUNDFISH FILLETS IN COLD STORAGE
(EXCLUDING BLOCKS)



Groundfish fillets in cold-storage on December 1 were 17 percent lower than the rather high stocks a year earlier (Chart 8). The charts and tables on the following pages indicate the inventory changes by species.

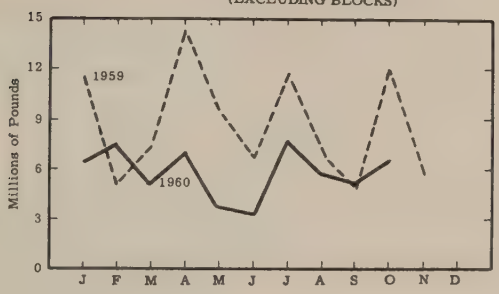
Imports

January - October

1960.....57,854,000 Lbs.

1959.....90,073,000 Lbs.

CHART 9 - IMPORTS OF ~~GROUNDFISH FILLETS~~
(EXCLUDING BLOCKS)



Imports of groundfish fillets, excluding blocks, during the first ten months of 1960 were 36 percent lower than those in the same 1959 period (Chart 9). Imports of blocks during this period, however, were 32 percent higher than last year.

COD FILLETS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

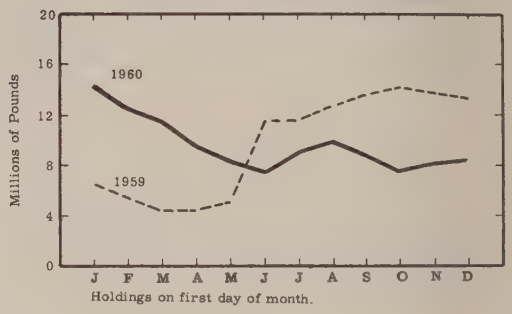
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960..... 8,377,000 Lbs.

1959.....13,418,000 Lbs.

CHART 10 - COD FILLETS IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of cod fillets on December 1 were 38 percent lower than the higher than normal stocks on the same date in 1959 (Chart 10). With expected light landings, inventories should be reduced further during the first quarter.

Imports

January - October

1960.....26,255,000 Lbs.

1959.....49,873,000 Lbs.

Imports of cod fillets during the first ten months of 1960 were about 47 percent below those during the corresponding period in 1959. The greatest decline during this period was in the imports from Iceland.

HADDOCK FILLETS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960..... 9,041,000 Lbs.

1959.....10,468,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of haddock fillets on December 1 were 14 percent lower than those on the same date last year (Chart 11).

Landings of haddock are expected to be seasonally low during the first quarter.

Imports of haddock fillets during the first ten months of 1960 amounted to 19 million pounds, about 5 million pounds lower than in the same period in 1959. First quarter imports should be about normal.

Prices of haddock fillets continue to strengthen from the low level at mid-1960 (Chart 11). Possible further strengthening before becoming steady in the first quarter.

CHART 11 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF HADDOCK FILLETS

Holdings - First day of Month.
Prices - 1-lb. small, skins on, at Boston.

OCEAN PERCH FILLETS

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Cold-Storage Holdings

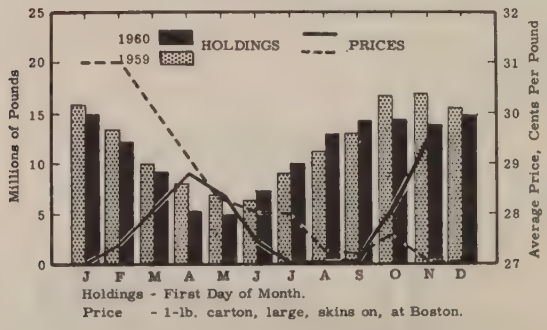
December 1

1960.....14,641,000 Lbs.

1959.....15,452,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of ocean perch fillets on December 1 were 5 percent lower than those a year earlier (Chart 12).

CHART 12 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF OCEAN PERCH FILLETS



Holdings - First Day of Month.
Price - 1-lb. carton, large, skins on, at Boston.

Prices of ocean perch fillets which began to rise at the beginning of the fourth quarter should become steady during the first quarter of 1961 (Chart 12).

OCEAN PERCH FILLETS (Cont.)

Imports

January - October

1960.....12,622,000 Lbs.

1959.....16,260,000 Lbs.

Imports of ocean perch fillets through October were about 22 percent lower than those in the first ten months last year. Higher receipts from Canada were offset by considerably lower imports from Iceland, West Germany, and other countries.

Landings

January - October

Maine and Massachusetts

1960.....125,896,000 Lbs.

1959.....121,179,000 Lbs.

Landings of ocean perch in Maine and Massachusetts during the first ten months of 1960 were about 4 percent higher than those in the corresponding period last year. Landings should gradually increase during the first quarter.

HALIBUT

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate-to-Liberal Demand - Good

Landings of halibut during the 1960 season probably will have exceeded the record year of 1959 when 71.5 million pounds were landed. The previous record year was in 1954 when 71.2 million pounds of halibut were landed on the Pacific Coast of the United States and Canada.

Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

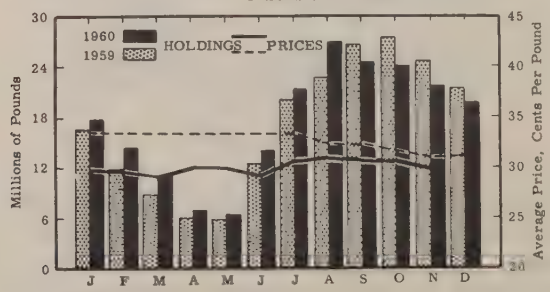
1960.....19,611,000 Lbs.

1959.....21,190,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of halibut on December 1 were about 7 percent lower than those on the same date in 1959 (Chart 13).

Wholesale prices of frozen halibut should remain steady during the first quarter. Throughout 1960, prices have been below those of 1959 (Chart 13).

CHART 13 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF HALIBUT



Holdings - First Day of Month.
Price - Western dressed, 20-80 lbs., frozen, at New York

MACKEREL, CANNED

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Moderate

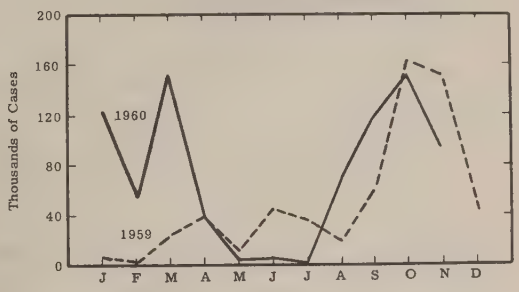
Pack of Pacific and Jack Mackerel

January - November

1960..... 807,200 Std. Cases

1959..... 553,059 Std. Cases

CHART 14 - CALIFORNIA PACK OF CANNED JACK AND PACIFIC MACKEREL



Pack - The pack of California canned mackerel through November, 1960 was about 46 percent higher than that during the same period in 1959 (Chart 14). It is expected that canned mackerel will be used to supplement the light California sardine pack.

SABLEFISH

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

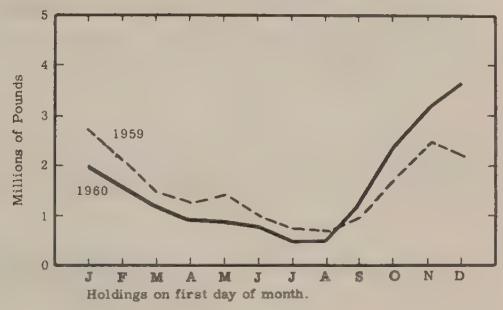
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960..... 3,541,000 Lbs.

1959..... 2,159,000 Lbs.

CHART 15 - SABLEFISH (BLACK COD) IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of sablefish on December 1 were about 64 percent higher than those a year earlier (Chart 15). There has been a steady demand from smokers who are short of salmon.

Prices are higher than last year and should continue strong during the first quarter of 1961.

SALMON, FRESH AND FROZEN

Market - Unsettled Supplies - Light Demand - Moderate

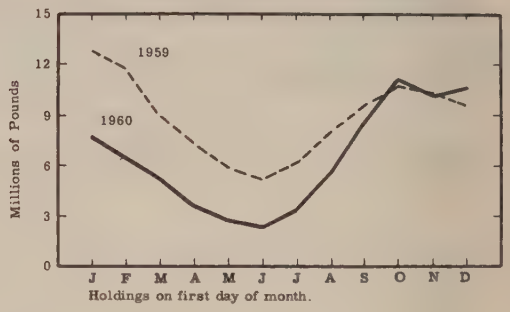
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960..... 10,446,000 Lbs.

1959..... 9,476,000 Lbs.

CHART 16 - SALMON IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of frozen salmon on December 1 were 10 percent higher than those on December 1, 1959 (Chart 16).

Imports, January - October

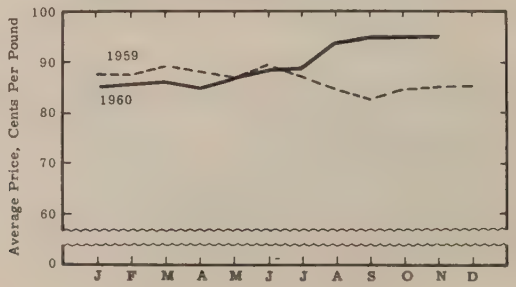
1960.....11,802,000 Lbs.

1959.....13,682,000 Lbs.

Imports of frozen salmon during the first ten months of 1960 were about 14 percent lower than those during the same period in 1959. Nearly all the imported frozen salmon is from Canada.

Prices are very high and could go higher in the first quarter thus affecting movement of supplies (Chart 17).

CHART 17 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF KING SALMON



Large dressed, frozen, at New York City.

SALMON, MILD-CURED

Market - Steady Supplies - Light Demand - Active

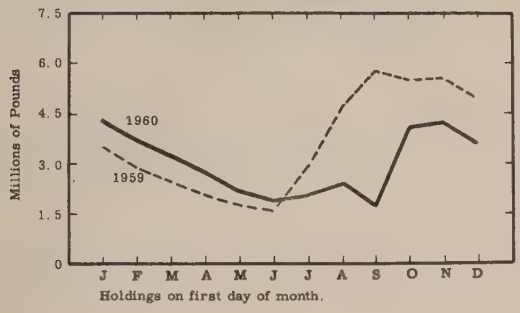
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960.....3,565,000 Lbs.

1959.....4,836,000 Lbs.

CHART 18 - MILD-CURED SALMON IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of mild-cured salmon on December 1 were 26 percent lower than those on the same date a year earlier (Chart 18).

Production of mild-cured salmon during 1960 was about 34 percent lower than the 8,234 tierces produced in 1959, reflecting a poor king salmon season.

Prices are expected to continue very high through the first quarter.

SALMON, CANNED

Market - Firm Supplies - Light-to-Moderate Demand - Active

Season Pack (Preliminary)

(Standard Cases)

	Alaska	Washington and Oregon	Total
1960	2,550,000	262,000	2,812,000
1959	1,778,000	688,000	2,466,000

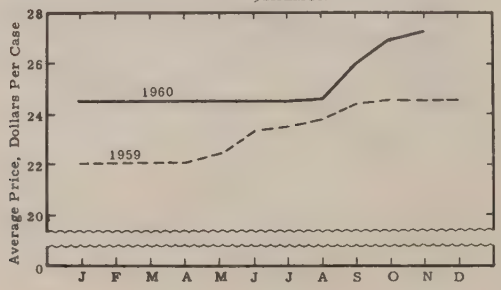
Pack - According to preliminary figures, the total 1960 canned salmon pack was 14 percent higher than that of 1959 which was the lowest since the turn of the century. All of the increase was in the Alaska pack since the Washington-Oregon pack was 62 percent lower than last year.

Imports of canned salmon through October amounted to 15.6 million pounds, about 41 percent lower than receipts during the same period in 1959. Imports from Japan were more than 10 million pounds lower than last year in the first ten months.

Exports of canned salmon through October were 8.9 million pounds compared with 9.4 million pounds in the corresponding period last year. Reduced shipments to the Philippines accounted for the decline.

Wholesale prices of canned pink salmon reached an all time high toward the end of 1960 (Chart 19). The short supply of all species except red salmon will keep prices firm and high during the first quarter, 1961.

CHART 19 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF CANNED PINK SALMON



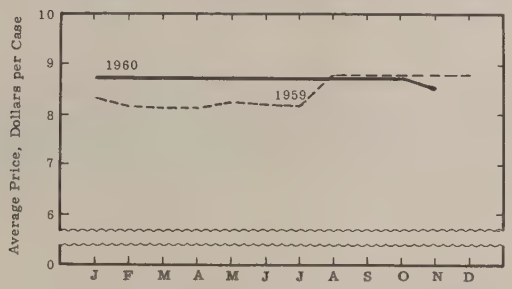
SARDINES, (MAINE)

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Moderate

Pack - The Maine sardine packing season officially closed on December 1, with a total canned pack of 1,975,000 cases (100 - 3 3/4 oz. cans). This was about 13 percent larger than the 1959 pack of 1,750,000 cases.

Prices - Wholesale prices which have remained steady for more than a year, began to weaken toward the end of November (Chart 20).

CHART 20 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF MAINE SARDINES



100-3 1/4 ounce cans, keyless, oil pack, at New York

SARDINES, (CALIFORNIA)

Market - Steady Supplies - Light Demand - Good

Landings of California sardines through November were 25,400 tons, the lightest catch since 1953. About 29,000 tons were landed in 1959, and 89,500 tons in 1958 during the first eleven months.

Prices are expected to remain steady during the first quarter.

Exports of sardines, canned not-in-oil, through October 1960 totaled 16.4 million pounds which were 44 percent lower than those in the similar period in 1959. Reduced shipments to the Philippines because of trade restrictions, and to Cuba because of the unfavorable international climate accounted for most of the decrease.

SARDINES, CANNED

Imports of Sardines Not-in-Oil

January - October

1960..... 5,737,000 Lbs.

1959..... 545,000 Lbs.

Imports of sardines, canned not-in-oil, during the first ten months of 1960 were more than 5 million pounds higher than those received in a comparable period in 1959. Continued high imports are expected from the Union of South Africa in view of the short supply of California sardines.

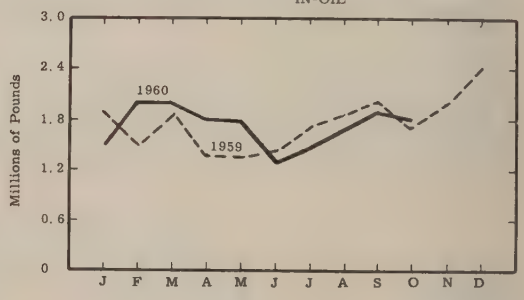
Imports of Sardines In Oil

January - October

1960..... 17,125,000 Lbs.

1959..... 16,727,000 Lbs.

CHART 21 - IMPORTS OF SARDINES CANNED IN-OIL



Imports of sardines, canned in oil, through October, 1960 were only about 2 percent higher than those during the same period in 1959 (Chart 21). Norway and Portugal continue to be the principal suppliers.

SWORDFISH

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

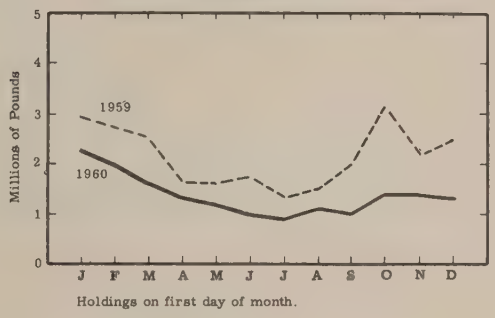
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960.....1,333,000 Lbs.

1959.....2,498,000 Lbs.

CHART 22 - SWORDFISH IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of swordfish on December 1 were about 47 percent lower than those on the same date in 1959 (Chart 22).

Imports of frozen swordfish through October, 1960 were 14 million pounds compared with 13.3 million pounds during the same period in 1959. Receipts of fresh swordfish in the first ten months of 1960 were 3.4 million pounds, while in the comparable period in 1959, they were 5.6 million pounds.

Prices are expected to remain steady during the first quarter.

TUNA, CANNED

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate-to-Liberal Demand - Good

Cannery Receipts of Fresh and Frozen Tuna

California

January - November

(In Tons)

	Imports	Domestic	Total
1960	61,200	133,450	194,650
1959	70,276	131,574	201,850

Tuna cannery receipts during the first eleven months of 1960 were almost 4 percent lower than those in the same period in 1959, and about 10 percent below the record 1958 receipts. Domestic landings were little more than 1 percent higher than last year, but imports, were 13 percent lower.

Imports, Fresh and Frozen Tuna

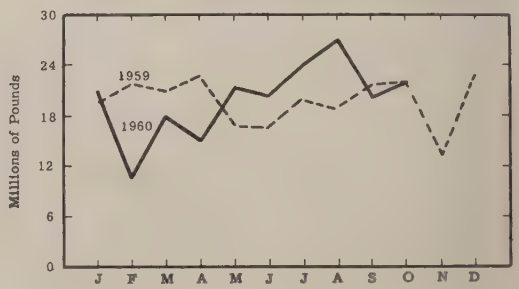
(All U.S. Ports)

January - October

1960.....200,040,000 Lbs.

1959.....200,487,000 Lbs.

CHART 23 - IMPORTS OF FRESH AND FROZEN TUNA



TUNA, CANNED (Cont.)

Imports of frozen tuna during January-October, 1960 were about the same as those in the comparable 1959 period (Chart 23). Imports of albacore, however, were about 57 percent higher, yellowfin and other tuna were down 13 percent.

Receipts of frozen loins and discs of tuna in the first ten months of 1960 were about 6 percent lower than those in the similar period in 1959. About 6.2 million pounds were received during this period in 1960, and 6.6 million pounds in 1959.

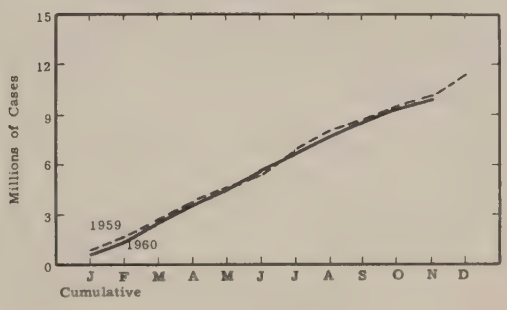
California Pack of Canned Tuna

January - November

1960.....9,880,000 Std. Cases

1959.....9,953,000 Std. Cases

CHART 24 - CALIFORNIA CANNED TUNA PACK

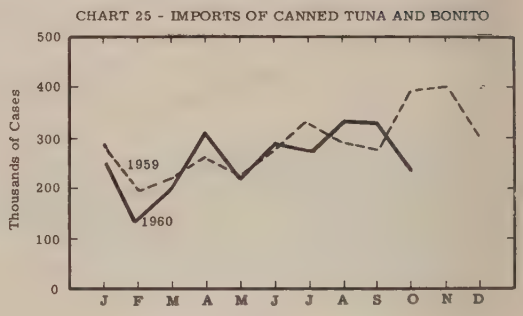


Pack - The California pack of canned tuna through November 1960 was almost 1 percent lower than that in the same period in 1959 (Chart 24). The decrease was in light meat tuna pack. The albacore pack was higher. Total U. S. pack in 1960 will have established a new record principally because of increase in pack in Puerto Rico and the Pacific Northwest.

Imports of Canned Tuna and Bonito

January - October

1960.....2,569,000 Std. Cases



1959.....2,781,000 Std. Cases

Imports of canned tuna and bonito through October, 1960 were 6 percent lower than those in the first ten months of 1959 (Chart 25). Receipts of tuna canned in oil were 24 percent lower than those in 1959, and imports of tuna canned in brine were down 4 percent.

Wholesale prices have remained steady during the last three quarters of 1960 and are expected to continue so during the first quarter of 1961 (Chart 26).

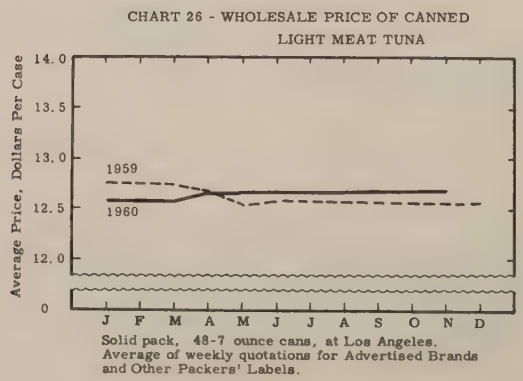


CHART 26 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF CANNED LIGHT MEAT TUNA
Average Price, Dollars Per Case
14.0
13.5
13.0
12.5
12.0
0
1959
1960
J F M A M J J A S O N D
Solid pack, 48-7 ounce cans, at Los Angeles.
Average of weekly quotations for Advertised Brands and Other Packers' Labels.

WHITING

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Landings

January - October

(Massachusetts)

1960.....77,455,000 Lbs.

1959.....75,262,000 Lbs.

Landings of whiting in Massachusetts through October, 1960 were about 3 percent higher than those a year earlier. First quarter landings are seasonally light. The whiting season will not get underway until the second quarter. Historically, Massachusetts provides about 80 percent of total whiting landings.

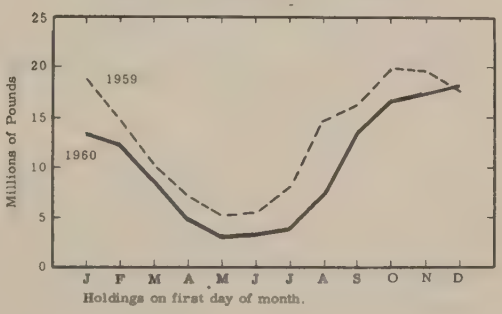
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960.....18,117,000 Lbs.

1959.....17,601,000 Lbs.

CHART 27 - WHITING IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of whiting on December 1 were 3 percent higher than those on the same date in 1959 (Chart 27).

Prices should remain steady.

CLAMS, FRESH

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

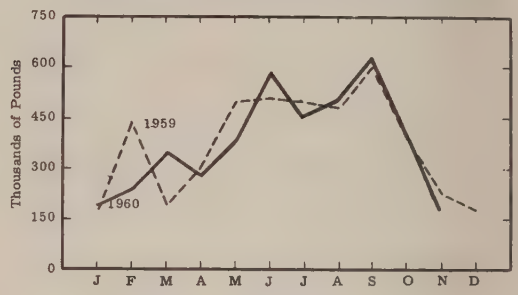
Maryland Soft Clams

Production, January - November

1960.....4,185,000 Lbs.

1959.....4,301,000 Lbs.

CHART 28 - PRODUCTION OF MARYLAND SOFT CLAMS



Production of soft clams in Maryland through November 1960 was about 3 percent lower than that in the similar period in 1959 (Chart 28).

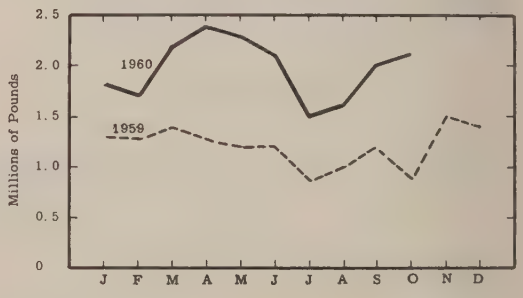
New Jersey Surf Clams

Production, January - October

1960.....19,571,000 Lbs.

1959.....12,145,000 Lbs.

CHART 29 - PRODUCTION OF SURF CLAMS, NEW JERSEY



Production - During January-October 1960, there was a 61 percent increase in the production of surf clams compared with the similar period in 1959 (Chart 29).

Prices are expected to remain steady.

CRABS AND CRAB MEAT, FRESH AND FROZEN

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Production - Dungeness crab season on the Pacific Coast began during the last part of the fourth quarter. Good prospects for the first quarter, 1961. Production of crabs along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts is also expected to be good during this quarter.

Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960..... 1,557,000 Lbs.

1959..... 945,000 Lbs.

Cold-storage holdings of crabs and crab meat on December 1 were about 65 percent higher than those on the same date in 1959.

Prices should be steady during the first quarter.

CRABS AND CRAB MEAT, CANNED

Pack of canned crab meat in the Gulf States during 1960 was about 20,000 standard cases (48 - 6 1/2 oz. cans), compared with 5,000 cases in 1959, and 7,200 cases in 1958.

CRABS AND CRAB MEAT, CANNED (Cont.)

Imports

January - October

1960.....3,715,000 Lbs.

1959.....6,888,000 Lbs.

Imports of canned crab meat during January-October 1960 were down 46 percent compared with those in the similar period in 1959. Practically all these imports were from Japan.

Prices could ease somewhat in first quarter.

LOBSTERS, NORTHERN

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

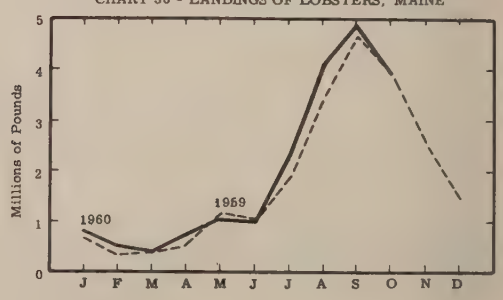
Maine Landings

January - October

1960.....19,803,000 Lbs.

1959.....18,263,000 Lbs.

CHART 30 - LANDINGS OF LOBSTERS, MAINE



Landings of lobsters in Maine during January-October 1960 were 8 percent higher than those in the first ten months a year earlier (Chart 30).

LOBSTERS, NORTHERN (Cont.)

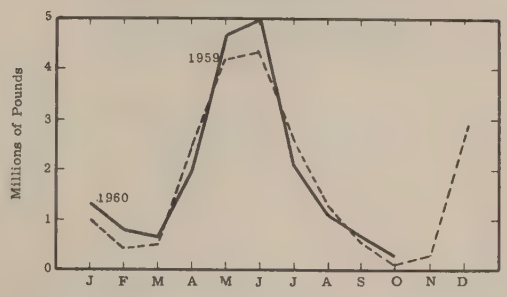
Imports from Canada

January - October

1960.....18,723,000 Lbs.

1959.....17,437,000 Lbs.

CHART 31 - IMPORTS OF LOBSTERS (CANADA)



Imports of lobsters from Canada through the first ten months of 1960 were 7 percent higher than those in the same period in 1959 (Chart 31).

Prices are expected to remain steady.

LOBSTERS, SPINY

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

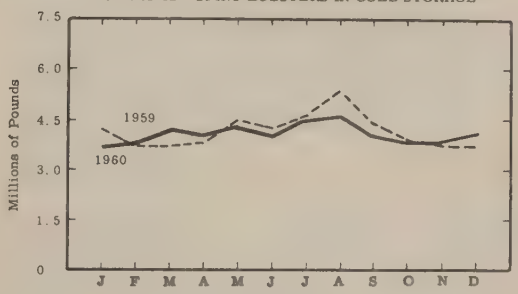
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960.....4,074,000 Lbs.

1959.....3,726,000 Lbs.

CHART 32 - SPINY LOBSTERS IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of spiny lobsters on December 1, 1960 were 9 percent higher than those a year earlier (Chart 32).

LOBSTERS, SPINY (Cont.)

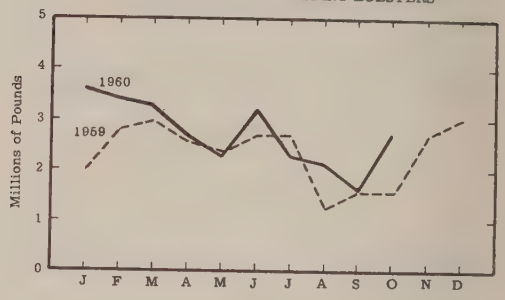
Imports

January - October

1960.....27,252,000 Lbs.

1959.....22,781,000 Lbs.

CHART 33 - IMPORTS OF SPINY LOBSTERS



Imports of spiny lobsters during January-October 1960 were 20 percent higher than those during a comparable period in 1959 (Chart 33). Principal suppliers are Australia and the Union of South Africa.

OYSTERS, FRESH-SHUCKED

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Active

Production - Total production on East and Gulf coasts is expected to be lower during the first quarter 1961 compared with the first quarter in 1960. Pacific oysters will reach peak production during January-March.

Prices will continue high.

OYSTERS, CANNED

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Moderate

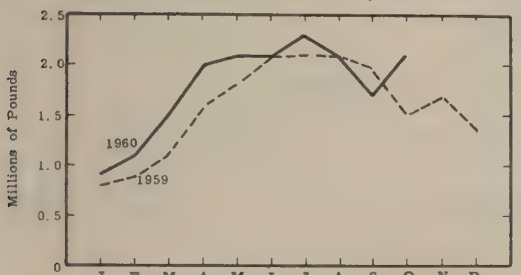
Production of canned oysters will begin during the first quarter.

Prices should remain firm.

SCALLOPS, SEA

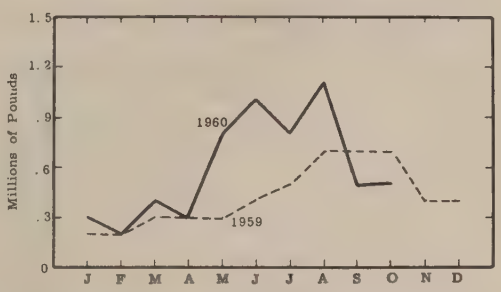
Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

CHART 34 - LANDINGS OF SCALLOPS, NEW BEDFORD



Shucked weight (lbs. of meat).

CHART 35 - IMPORTS OF SCALLOPS



Landings of sea scallops during January-October 1960 were 12 percent higher than those in the corresponding period in 1959 (Chart 34). Both U. S. and Canadian biologists predict lesser availability of scallops during 1961.

Imports of sea scallops through October, 1960 were 41 percent greater than those in the first ten months of 1959 (Chart 35). During this period imports from Canada were more than double those of the same period in 1959.

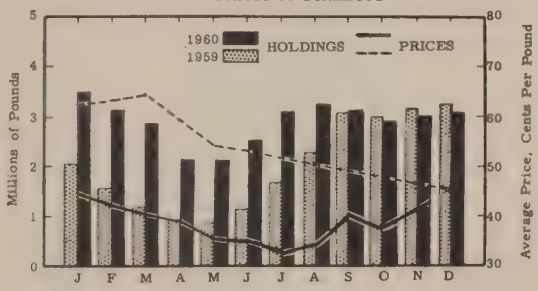
Cold-Storage Holdings

December 1

1960.....3,042,000 Lbs.

1959.....3,330,000 Lbs.

CHART 36 - COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS AND WHOLESALE PRICES OF SCALLOPS



Holdings - First Day of Month.
Price - Domestic 5-lb. carton, at Boston

Cold-storage holdings of sea scallops on December 1, 1960 were about 9 percent lower than those a year earlier (Chart 36). With the exception of the last three months of the year, holdings of scallops have been higher each month in 1960 than in 1959.

Wholesale prices of scallops should become steady during the first quarter of 1961 after having strengthened in late 1960 (Chart 36).

SHRIMP, FRESH AND FROZEN

Market - Firm Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

Landings

South Atlantic and Gulf Coast States

January - November

Headless

1960.....129,651,000 Lbs.

1959.....121,945,000 Lbs.

Landings of shrimp in the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast States during the first eleven months of 1960 were 6 percent higher than those in the comparable 1959 period. Texas, Louisiana, and Florida were the largest producers accounting for 82 percent of total production.

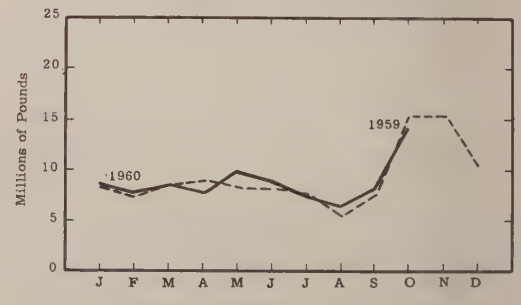
Imports

January - October

1960.....87,491,000 Lbs.

1959.....85,675,000 Lbs.

CHART 37 - IMPORTS OF SHRIMP



Imports of frozen shrimp during January-October, 1960 were 2 percent higher than in the comparable 1959 period (Chart 37). Mexico supplied about 62 percent of the shrimp imports through October, 1960. Continued heavy imports are expected in the first quarter, 1961. There are approximately 50 countries exporting shrimp to the United States.

Cold-Storage Holdings

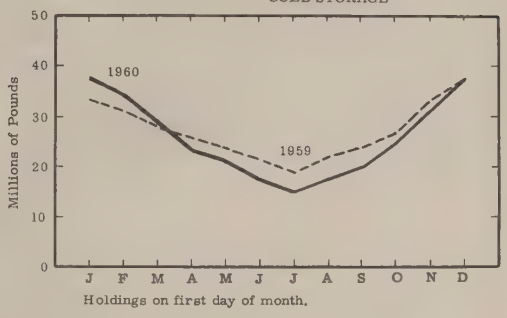
December 1

(Raw Headless)

1960.....37,330,000 Lbs.

1959.....37,334,000 Lbs.

CHART 38 - RAW HEADLESS SHRIMP IN COLD STORAGE



Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-Storage Holdings

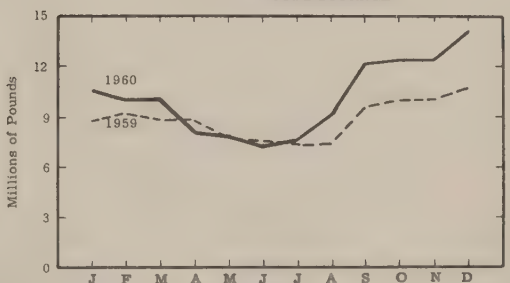
December 1

(All Others)

1960.....14,087,000 Lbs.

1959.....10,719,000 Lbs.

CHART 39 - ALL OTHER (PROCESSED) SHRIMP IN COLD STORAGE

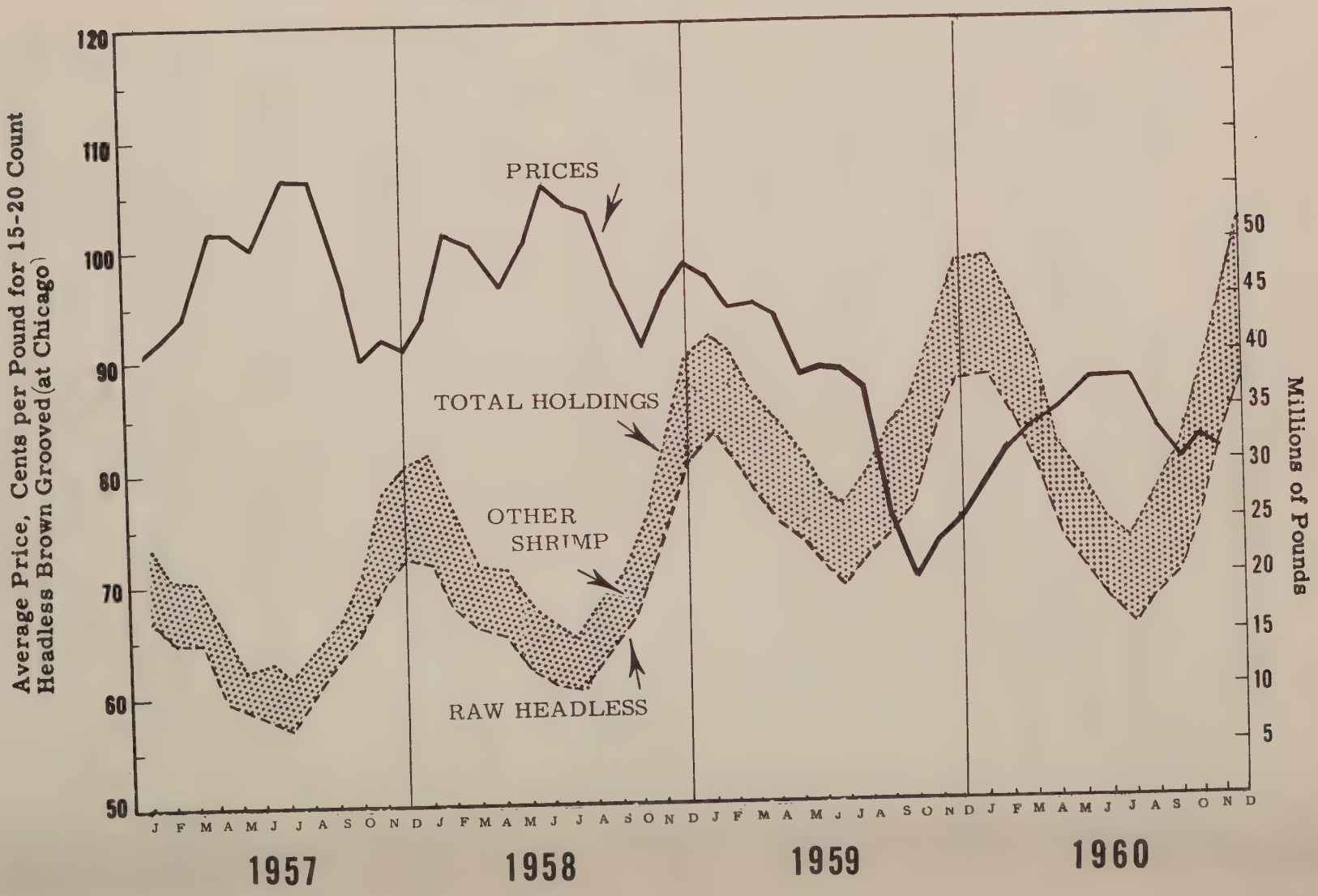


Holdings on first day of month.

Cold-storage holdings of raw headless shrimp on December 1, 1960 were about the same as a year earlier (Chart 38). However, holdings of all other shrimp, including breaded, were 31 percent higher (Chart 39).

Wholesale prices are expected to remain relatively steady during the first quarter.

CHART 39 - SHRIMP IN COLD STORAGE AND WHOLESALE PRICES



SHRIMP, CANNED

Market - Steady Supplies - Moderate Demand - Good

Pack

Gulf States

August - December 1960.....376,000 Std. Cases

August - December 1959.....322,000 Std. Cases

Pack of canned shrimp in the Gulf States during August-December 1960 was 17 percent above that during the similar 1959 period. First quarter production is seasonally low.

Prices are expected to continue high and firm during the first quarter.

Cold-Storage Holdings

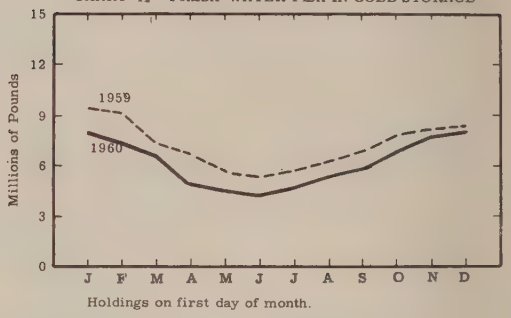
December 1

(United States)

1960.....7,920,000 Lbs.

1959.....8,290,000 Lbs.

CHART 41 - FRESH-WATER FISH IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-Storage Holdings

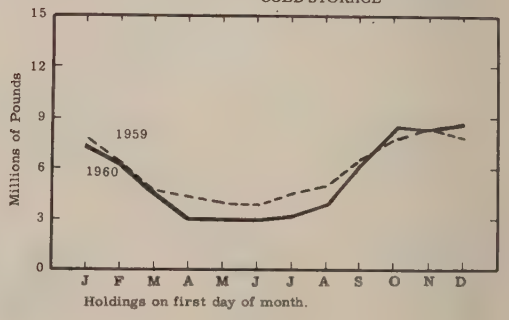
December 1

(Canada)

1960.....8,517,000 Lbs.

1959.....7,845,000 Lbs.

CHART 42 - CANADIAN FRESH-WATER FISH IN COLD STORAGE



Cold-storage holdings of fresh-water fish in the United States on December 1, 1960, were about 4 percent lower than those a year earlier (Chart 41), while in Canada, holdings were almost 9 percent higher than those of December 1, 1959 (Chart 42).

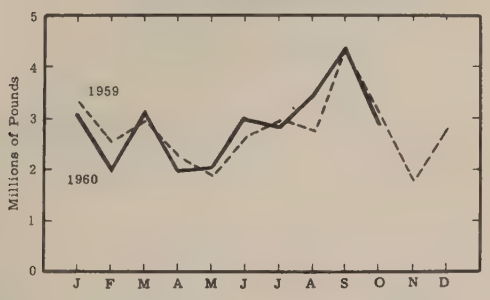
Fish Imports

January - October

1960.....28,836,000 Lbs.

1959.....29,000,000 Lbs.

CHART 43 - IMPORTS OF FRESH-WATER FISH (CANADA)
(Does not include fillets)



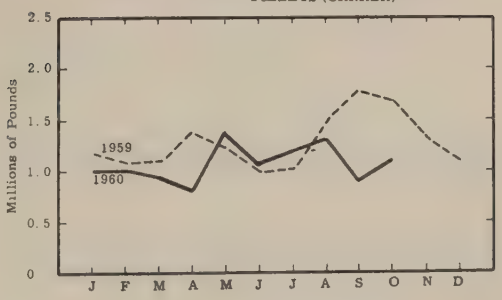
Fillet Imports

January - October

1960.....10,765,000 Lbs.

1959.....13,195,000 Lbs.

CHART 44 - IMPORTS OF FRESH-WATER FISH FILLETS (CANADA)



Imports of fresh-water fish, other than fillets, from Canada, during January-October, 1960 were only slightly less than the receipts in the first ten months of 1959 (Chart 43). Imports of fresh-water fillets were about 18 percent lower (Chart 44).

Prices are expected to remain steady.

FISH OIL

Market - Steady Supplies - Liberal Demand - Good

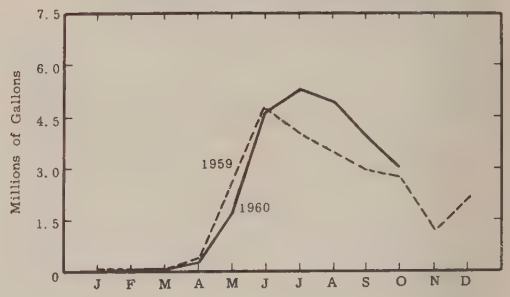
Production

January - October

1960.....24,385,000 Gals.

1959.....21,911,000 Gals.

CHART 45 - FISH OIL PRODUCTION



Production of fish oil through October, 1960 was about 11 percent higher than that in the first ten months of 1959 (Chart 45). First quarter production is seasonally very limited.

Exports, January - October

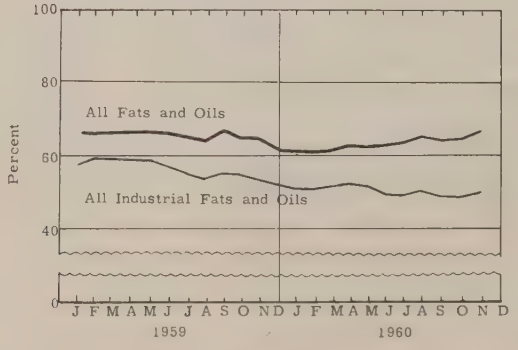
1960.....113,212,000 Lbs.

1959.....118,799,000 Lbs.

Exports of fish oils during January-October, 1960 were 5 percent lower than those during the same period in 1959.

Wholesale price index for all fats and oils in November, 1960 was 67.1 compared with 65.2 a year earlier. The index for industrial fats and oils was 49.8 in November, compared with 53.8 in the same month in 1959 (Chart 46).

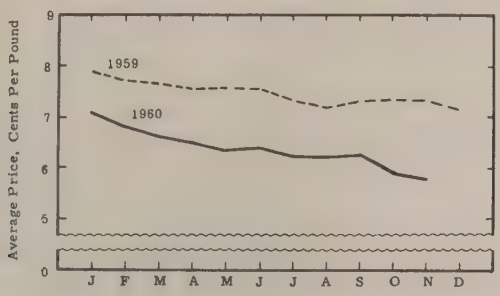
CHART 46 WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
1947-49 = 100



FISH OIL (Cont.)

Wholesale price of menhaden oil in November, 1960 was 20 percent below that a year earlier, and 28 percent lower than the price in November, 1958 (Chart 47). Prices should level off and become steady during the first quarter 1961.

CHART 47 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF MENHADEN OIL



FISH MEAL

Market - Unsettled Supplies - Liberal Demand - Light

Production

January - November

1960.....251,211 Tons

1959.....266,866 Tons

Production of fish meal through November, 1960 was about 6 percent lower than that during the first eleven months in 1959, which was a record year for production. First quarter is a period of light production. Because of steadily declining world-wide fish meal prices, the FAO has scheduled a meeting of fish meal producing and consuming countries to be held in Rome, Italy, March 20 - 29, 1961. The objectives of the meeting are to (1) assess basic trends, (2) determine ways and means of increasing a demand, and (3) develop measures to insure stability in the fish meal market.

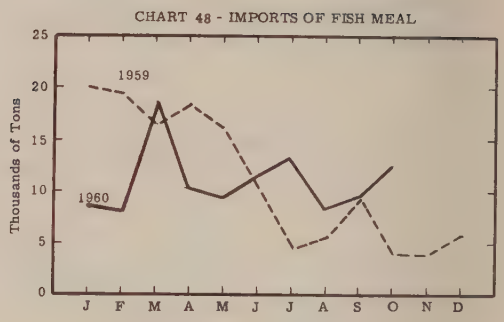
Imports

January - October

1960.....109,848 Tons

1959.....123,744 Tons

CHART 48 - IMPORTS OF FISH MEAL



Imports of fish meal during January-October, 1960 were 11 percent lower than in the comparable 1959 period (Chart 48). Peru accounted for half of the receipts. Canada was the second leading supplier. A large gain in imports was noted from Chile; a very sharp decline from Angola.

CHART 49 - WHOLESALE FEEDSTUFF PRICE INDEX
1947-49=100

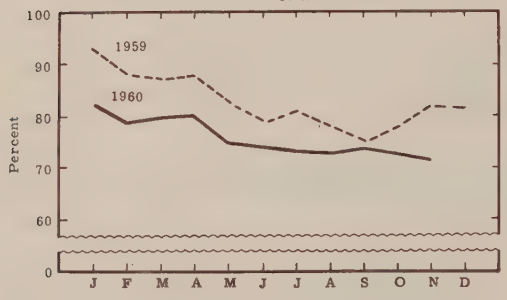
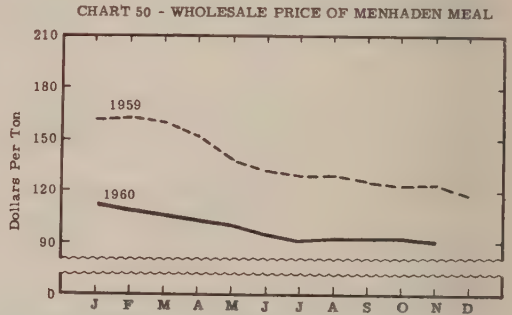


CHART 50 - WHOLESALE PRICE OF MENHADEN MEAL



For 60% protein, burlap bag, at Eastern ports.

Wholesale feedstuff index for November, 1960 was 71.5, about a 12 percent decrease from November 1959 (Chart 49).

Average wholesale price for menhaden meal continues at an unsettled pace and is expected to remain unsettled in the first quarter (Chart 50).

The statements appearing in this report are interpretations of past experiences influenced by current indications of what probably will occur. Wide use is made of interviews and correspondence with representative members of the commercial fishing industry, in order to obtain the opinions of the trade as to the business conditions generally expected to prevail during the period of the year covered by the report.

Sources of Chart Data

Chart 2, U.S. Department of Labor
Charts 9, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 37, 43, 44, 48, U.S. Department of Commerce
Charts 46, 49, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Charts 14, 24, California Department of Fish and Game, Marine Fisheries Branch
Chart 42 Canadian Bureau of Statistics

Market Terms Used In This Report

The terms under the headings Market, Supplies, and Demand are intended to indicate the degree of market activity produced by the particular supply and demand situation.

Market refers to movement of supplies and the price structure.

Supplies refer to available stocks, i, e. receipts, imports, cold-storage holdings, and processed fish and shellfish. The terms used are relative and do not signify any particular quantity.

Demand measures the readiness of the trade to absorb supplies.

Market	Supplies	Demand
Excited	Very heavy	Exceeds supply
Stronger	Heavy	Brisk
Strong	Liberal	Active
Active	Moderate-to-Liberal	Good
Firm	Moderate	Improving
Steady	Light-to-Moderate	Moderate
Unsettled	Light	Light
Dull		Slow
Weak		Practically no demand
Demoralized		No demand

Prices refer to those at wholesale or comparable level.

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Feed Market Summary
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